

## KEEP NC ATTORNEYS IN PUBLIC SERVICE CAREERS

Restore state funding  
for NC LEAF

## THE NORTH CAROLINA LEGAL EDUCATION ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION (NC LEAF)

- ▶ Prosecutors, public defenders and legal aid lawyers keep communities safe, protect the rights of citizens and promote fair and efficient administration of justice and public safety
- ▶ NC LEAF encourages attorneys to pursue careers in public service and retains well-trained public servants in prosecutor, public defender and legal aid careers
- ▶ NC LEAF has provided loan repayment assistance of nearly \$5 million to more than 1,000 public service attorneys in NC with the least ability to repay their law school debt

# \$109,610

the average amount of debt load  
of NC LEAF applicants

# \$38,628

the starting salary for a  
prosecutor or public defender

Without the assistance of NC LEAF, it would be a constant financial struggle for me to keep working in public service. I know I could make more money in private practice, but this work is what I went to law school to do and I appreciate that NC LEAF makes it possible for me.

- Legal Aid Attorney

During my tenure as a prosecutor in the 26<sup>th</sup> District, I have been assigned to the following units: domestic violence, misdemeanor, crimes against persons, juvenile and narcotics. My work is rewarding and necessary. I could not have served my community in this capacity without the assistance of NC Leaf.

- Assistant District Attorney

# \$500,000

the amount of state funding  
cut from NC LEAF in 2011

# 104

the number of additional public  
service attorneys who would be  
supported by restored state funding

NORTH CAROLINA  
**ACCESS TO JUSTICE**  
CAMPAIGN

[www.ncaccesstojustice.org](http://www.ncaccesstojustice.org)



### FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Esther Hall, NC LEAF, Executive Director  
(919) 845-6089, [ehall@ncleaf.org](mailto:ehall@ncleaf.org)

Mary Irvine, Equal Justice Alliance, Director  
(919) 706-4435, [irvine@ncequalaccesstojustice.org](mailto:irvine@ncequalaccesstojustice.org)